

Vermont Department of Taxes FY 2024 Budget

Key Budget Initiative

Modernize Current Use Program with one-time appropriation from Current Use Special Fund surplus

Roughly 43% of Vermont's land area is enrolled in the Current Use program. But this program relies on an older IT system and remains heavily reliant on paper and manual processes. This proposal would shift key program functionality into the Department's existing integrated IT system, VTax, which would streamline and automate many manual, paper-intensive processes.

The program wasn't part of the initial VTax implementation because it is related to property taxes, which are not collected by the State, and it was housed in a separate system. The surplus in the Current Use special fund could be used to integrate the program into VTax and retire the old standalone current use system, as well as digitizing decades of current use records that the Department needs to maintain.

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Program: Personal Income Tax Administration

Goals:

- Ensure the Personal Income Tax code is administered equitably and efficiently
- Ensure proper amount of tax is paid
- Prevent identity theft and other fraud
- Quickly provide Vermonters with valid tax refunds

Performance Measure	CY 2021	CY2022
Erroneous refunds prevented (\$)	\$6.9M	\$8.1M
Timely filed refunds issued within 45 days of due date (%)	90%	95%
Refunds issued within 30 days of filing (%)	64%	82%

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Program: Current Use

Goals:

- Provide accurate, equitable, and transparent administration of Current Use reductions
- Ensure timely and accurate determination of program enrollment
- Provide accurate data to issue payments to municipalities for foregone revenue

Performance Measure	CY 2021	CY2022
Amount of savings to landowners (\$)	\$66.6M	\$65.5M
Applications Processed by April 15 (%)	20%	20%
Average days to process applications	155	143